

Message Text

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70

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 INT-05 GSA-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 AID-05 COME-00

EB-07 FRB-03 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 CIEP-01 LAB-04

SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15 STR-04 CEA-01 FEA-01 /087 W

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R 201925Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9527

INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EMIN, EIND, MX, CU, VE, PE

SUBJ: GOM PLANS FOR MULTINATIONAL STEEL PROJECT IN TEHUANTEPEC

1. SUMMARY: AS REPORTED IN MEXICO CITY PRESS, MEXICO OFFERED CUBA A ROLE IN A NEWLY UNVEILED IRON AND STEEL PROJECT SUPPOSEDLY TO BE LOCATED IN MEXICO'S ISTHMUS OF TEHUANTEPEC. END SUMMARY.

2. FOLLOWING A PATTERN THAT THE ECHEVERRIA GOVERNMENT BEGAN WITH VENEZUELA AND JAMAICA, NAMELY FORMING MULTINATIONAL JOINT INDUSTRIAL VENTURES WITH OTHER LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEN GOVERNMENTS, PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA PROPOSED THAT CUBA JOIN MEXICO, AS WELL AS VENEZUELA AND PERU, IN A NEW INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX TO BE LOCATED IN MEXICO'S ISTHMUS OF TEHUANTEPEC. CUBAN PRIME MINISTER CASTRO'S INITIAL REACTION APPEARS TO ONE OF INTEREST, NOTING THAT CUBA RELIES HEAVILY ON IMPORTED STEEL FOR ITS INDUSTRIAL AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT.

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3. EMBASSY COMMENT: MEXICO AND VENEZUELA HAVE TOSSED

THE IDEA FOR SUCH A COMPLEX AROUND, MOSTLY AT MEXICO'S
PRODDING, BUT ACCORDING TO VENEZUELAN EMBASSY SOURCE
THERE DOESN'T APPEAR TO HAVE BEEN MUCH ENTHUSIASM ON
VENEZUELAN SIDE FOR SUCH A PROJECT TO BE LOCATED CN
MEXICO, ALSO, IT APPEARS THE VENEZUELAN EMBASSY IN
MEXICO IS NOT AWARE OF SUCH A PROJECT INCLUDING CUBAN
PARTICIPATION. THE ISTHMUS, OTHER THAN ITS PROXIMITY
TO THE CARIBBEAN AND BOUNTIFUL SUPPLIES OF PETROLEUM,
DOES NOT APPEAR TO EXHIBIT ANY OF THE NATURAL
ADVANTAGES, I.E. NEARNESS TO NATURAL RESOURCES OR
MARKETS, THAT DESIGNERS OF STEEL COMPLEXES NORMALLY
LOOK FOR.
JOVA

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Message Attributes

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